

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed January 31, 2008 (the "Office Action"). As of the date of the Office Action, claims 56, 57, 60, 61 and 65 were pending in this application, claims 43-53 having been withdrawn from consideration as drawn to a non-elected invention.

By this Amendment, independent claim 65, and dependent claims 56, 57, 60 and 61, have been amended. New claims 66-69 have been added. Therefore, claims 56, 57, 60, 61 and 65-69 are presently pending.

Initially, Applicant expresses his appreciation for the telephonic interview of March 26, 2008, between Examiner Rudy and Applicant's representative, Jennifer S. Brooks. The proposed amendment to independent claim 65 (and therefore to dependent claims 56, 57, 60 and 61) was discussed, with Applicant's representative opining as to why such proposed amended claim would patentably distinguish from the prior art of record. Examiner Rudy indicated he would be open to such avenue of prosecution, reserving his final decision to a review of the actual language of the amended claims and Applicant's remarks on the record. Accordingly, Applicant presents arguments in support of the amended claims and newly added claims 66-69, as follows:

Applicant's invention is a computer implemented, on-line, system that aides inventors and other intellectual property owners promote and market their respective innovations. It accomplishes such objective through the use of a computerized communication network in which satellite computer stations (e.g., personal computers) operatively and interactively connected over the network with the host computer (e.g., Internet domain site), provide three principal distinct functions: (1) provides a data base in which the inventors or other intellectual property owners can store descriptions of their respective innovations as well as the distinctive features typifying such innovations, (2) elicits and stores consumer feedback as to the commercial attractiveness or desirability of the inventions, and (3) provides industry (as well as inventor) access to the stored consumer opinions about the respective inventions. The computerized system of this invention therefore not only provides the inventors and other intellectual property owners means for displaying on line pertinent data about their respective innovations, but enables valuable consumer input about such innovations, accessible by the inventor (or other intellectual property owners) as well as the industry

representatives, to assist in evaluating the potential market for, or needed changes to, an invention, in order to maximize the market for such invention. And all of this accomplished by the parties sitting at their respective satellite computer stations.

Claim 65, as amended, describes this consumer feedback procedure, specifically emphasizing that the computer program module implementing this feedback includes a survey model which elicits the feedback data from multiple consumer computer stations for consolidation as an information summary from a cross-section of consumers. Claim 65 also recites the industry computer stations, and furthermore recites the computer program module which transfers the information summary to authorized industry computer stations.

Newly added claim 66 is directed to Applicant's computer implemented system emphasizing the plural customer computer stations operatively and interactively connected over the network with the host computer station, the survey module which elicits the feedback data from multiple ones of the consumer computer stations, and the computer program modules that enable the customers (i.e., inventors and intellectual property owners) to transmit and store in the host computer data base their identification and the descriptions of their respective innovations, carry out the survey from multiple consumer computer stations to develop the information summary, and forward this information summary for storage in a data base at the host computer station. Claim 67 is dependent upon claim 66, and further defines the multiple industry computer stations, and recites the additional function of the computer program module to transfer the information summaries to only those industry computer stations which the system has qualified or authorized to access such information. Newly added dependant claim 68 further adds the feature that the computer program model additionally stores information pertaining to the legal protection status of each of the innovations in the host computer station data base.

It is believed readily apparent that neither the prior art patent to Johnson, et al, U.S. Patent No. 6,505,172 ("the '172 patent"), nor any of the other cited references, disclose or remotely suggest Applicant's invention, as particularly defined by claims 65-68. The '172 patent is merely directed to a system in which potential consumers search for information about products in inventory for the purpose of thereafter ordering the desired products. To the contrary, the consumers of Applicant's inventive system are the entities that themselves provide opinions about the stored inventions. Moreover, there is no suggestion, expressly or otherwise, in the '172 patent about the use of a survey module which elicits feedback data

from multiple consumer computer stations by posing one or more questions to the consumers regarding an invention's desirability or commercial attractiveness, let alone consolidating all of this feedback into a cross-sectional information summary which can be stored, and thereafter accessed by the invention owners and/or industry representatives, all at their respective satellite stations.

Newly added claim 69 is directed to that feature of Applicant's computer implemented system, as defined above, which stores both confidential and non-confidential information regarding the respective inventions, but prevents access to such confidential information at the industry computer stations until the computer program module has confirmed such industry representative as having executed a confidentiality agreement. It is readily apparent that this feature of Applicant's invention is not remotely shown or suggested in the prior art of record, whether taken by themselves, or in conjunction with the others.

Conclusion

In view of the reason set forth above, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 65, 66, and 69 be allowed (along with dependent claims 56, 57, 60, 61, 67 and 68) and the case advanced to issue. To the extent that any further fees are required during the pendency of this Application, including petition fees, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees, including, without limitation, any fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. § 1.17, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 07-0153 of Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP and reference Attorney Docket No. 125446-1001. In the event that any additional time is needed for this filing, or any additional time in excess of that requested in a petition for an extension of time, please consider this a petition for an extension of time for any needed extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 or any other section or provision of Title 37. Applicant respectfully requests that the Commissioner grant

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any such petition and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the Deposit Account referenced above.

Respectfully submitted,



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